

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** Apparatus for injecting ozone into a tank of water, said apparatus comprising in combination:

- a) a filter for filtering the water drawn from said tank;
- b) a venturi for entraining ozone in the filtered water flowing to the tank;
- c) a circulation pump for drawing water through said filter and returning the water to said tank through said venturi to entrain ozone in the returning water;
- d) an ozone generator for generating the ozone;
- e) a conduit interconnecting said ozone generator with ~~[[and]]~~ said venturi to convey ozone to said venturi from said ozone generator, said conduit accommodating a flow of ozone from said venturi to said ozone generator;
- f) a suction line adapted to provide a flow of air to said ozone generator; and
- g) a check valve disposed in said suction line to prevent an outflow of gas airflow from said ozone generator through said suction line, ~~through said check valve.~~

2. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said venturi includes an inlet in fluid communication with said conduit.

3. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a valve for metering the

flow of air ~~airflow~~ into said ozone generator.

4. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said valve is upstream of said check valve.

5. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said ozone generator.

6. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said filter is upstream of said check valve.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method for injecting ozone into a tank of water, said method comprising the steps of:

a) filtering the water from the tank with a filter;

b) drawing the water through the filter and discharging the water into the tank through a device for entraining the ozone;

c) generating ozone with an ozone generator and conveying the ozone to the entraining device;

d) accommodating a flow of ozone from the entraining device to the ozone generator;

e) [[d]] entraining the ozone conveyed in the water flowing into the tank;

f) [[e]] further drawing air into the ozone generator through a suction line; and

g) ~~[[f]]~~ precluding outflow of air and ozone from the ozone generator through air from the suction line from the ozone generator. ~~to restrain flow of water from the venturi to the ozone generator.~~

8. The method as set forth in Claim 7 including the step of controlling the rate of flow of air into the ozone generator.

9. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 7 including the step of filtering the flow of air to the ozone generator.

10. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 8 including the step of filtering the flow of air to the ozone generator.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A method for preventing a flow of water from a tank to an ozone generator having a suction line for inflow of air and adapted to provide ozone for entrainment in water flowing into the tank, said method comprising the steps of:

a) conveying ozone through a conduit from the ozone generator to a venturi;

b) accommodating a flow of ozone through the conduit from the venturi to the ozone generator;

c) ~~[[b]]~~ entraining ozone from the conduit in the water flowing through the venturi to the tank; and

d) ~~[[c]]~~ preventing a reverse flow of air and ozone from the ozone generator

through the suction line with a check valve disposed in the suction line.

12. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 11 including the step of controlling the rate of air flow into the ozone generator.

13. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 11 including the step of filtering the air flow to the ozone generator.

14. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 12 including the step of filtering the air flow to the ozone generator.

15. **(Currently Amended)** Apparatus for preventing a flow of water from a tank to an ozone generator adapted to provide ozone for entrainment in water flowing into the tank, said apparatus comprising in combination:

a) said ozone generator;

b) a device for entraining the ozone from said ozone generator in the water flowing into the tank;

c) a conduit for conveying ozone from said ozone generator to said device, said conduit accommodating a flow of ozone from said venturi to said ozone generator;

d) a suction line for providing air to said ozone generator; and

e) a check valve disposed in said suction line for establishing a pressurized environment in said conduit to prevent a flow of water therein to said ozone generator.

16. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 including a valve for regulating the rate of flow of air into said suction line.
17. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said suction line.
18. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 16 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said suction line.
19. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said device is a venturi.
20. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 19 wherein said conduit includes a loop disposed above the level of the water in the tank.